

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-10 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 6, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed, and specifically, at page 35, lines 19-24, page 36, lines 6-8 and page 40, lines 2-17. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 4, (presumably 5), 6, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,537,168 to Kitagishi et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,774,105 to Yamamoto et al.

Claims 2, 3, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kitagishi et al. in view of Yamamoto et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,628,355 to Takahara.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“A liquid crystal projector apparatus...comprising...

arithmetic operation means for estimating a temperature of each of said plurality of liquid crystal panels by indirectly detecting a temperature of the temperature sensor and adding such temperature to a temperature of a time shift period of the power supply obtained from predetermined graphical relationships of starting time shift data for each of said plurality of liquid crystal panels...” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 5,537,168 to Kitagishi et al. relates to a projection type display apparatus for illuminating an original projection image with light from a projection light source, and projecting light transmitted through the original illuminated image using a projection lens. Further, light reflected by a projection surface is extracted from a position at an original image side of the projection lens or in the projection lens, and a focus detection unit receives the extracted light.

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 5,774,105 to Yamamoto et al. relates to a display apparatus that is constituted by at least one display panel, such as a liquid crystal panel, so as to include a first display region and a second display region. At least one of the first and second display regions is provided with a memory characteristic so as to avoid the use of a special memorization means, such as a non-volatile memory or a temporary power supply.

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,628,355 to Takahara relates to an array substrate that is formed with pixel electrodes in the form of a matrix. The pixel electrode is connected to a thin film transistor. The thin film transistor is formed with a light shielding film consisting of resin for preventing an entry of light into the thin film transistor.

The Examiner relied on Yamamoto to teach indirect detecting of temperatures, estimating temperatures and adding a time shift period temperature (column 4, lines 14-19 and column 5, line 31 – column 7, line 31). Applicants respectfully disagree. Yamamoto states that environmental conditions are indirectly stored and does not mention indirectly measuring environmental conditions, such as temperature. Further, in Fig. 1 of Yamamoto, the temperature sensor 5 is positioned directly on the LCD panel 2a. However, the present invention specifically indicates that the temperature sensor is not directly positioned on LCD panels (page 35, lines 19-24 of the present specification).

Moreover, Yamamoto does not mention anything concerning adding two temperatures. The portions of Yamamoto relied upon by the Examiner, and particularly column 6, lines 54-60 and column 7, lines 26-31 merely mention directly measuring a temperature of an LCD panel and determining an optimum code based on the signal from the temperature sensor. It appears that the purpose of the optimum code is to allow the power supply to determine how much voltage to apply to each of the LCD panels. Yamamoto does not appear to use predetermined graphical relationships of starting time shift data to determine the temperature of the LCD panels, as recited in claim 1.

Applicants submit that Kitagishi, Yamamoto and Takahara - taken either alone or in combination - do not teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit that there is no teaching or suggestion of estimating a temperature of each of a plurality of liquid crystal panels by indirectly detecting a temperature of the temperature sensor and adding such temperature to a temperature of a time shift period of the power supply obtained from predetermined graphical

relationships of starting time shift data for each of the plurality of liquid crystal panels, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, amended independent claim 6 is also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1 and 6 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION


In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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